

Bertita Harding letter S1478

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Harding, Bertita
Title	Bertita Harding letter
Date	1935/09/16
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S1478

Preferred Citation

Bertita Harding letter, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note/

Bertita Cara Camille Leonarz de Harding was born November 1, 1902 , in Nuremberg, Bavaria, Germany, to Don Emilio, director general of the Mexican steel industry, and Sarolta Poszte-Karoly, a Magyar countess, Leonarz. The family later moved to Mexico. Harding attended the Drexel-Lankenau School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the University of Wisconsin, and the National Conservatory of Music in Mexico City. She came to Indianapolis, Indiana in 1926 and was naturalized in 1927. She married Jack Ellison de Harding on October 7, 1926 in Indianapolis. She lived in Indianapolis until her husband's death in 1954. Harding then married Count Josef Radetzky von Radetz on October 7, 1957 and adopted a Mexican orphan Katya. They were divorced within a year in Vienna, Austria and Radetz went to prison, having attempted to swindle \$50,000 from Bertita.

She was trained as a pianist and soprano for the concert stage but turned to writing, composing several novels of famous royalty, many of which were published in Indianapolis, and professional lecturing on Mexico, Europe, and Latin America. Bertita was decorated by the Imperial Government of Ethiopia for research on that country.

She died in December of 1971 in Mexico.

Sources:

"Harding, Bertita." Contemporary Authors Online. Retrieved 2015/08/26 <http://go.galegroup.com/ps>.

Shumaker, Arthur Wesley. "Harding, Bertita." In *A history of Indiana literature*. (Indianapolis, Indiana: Indiana Historical Bureau, 1962) 577-580.

Ancestry.com. "Harding, Bertita." *U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014*. Retrieved 2015/08/26. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>.

Thompson, Donald Eugene, and R.E. Banta. "Harding, Bertita Cara Camille Leonarz de." (1981). In *Indiana authors and their books, 1967-1980*. (Crawfordsville, Indiana: Wabash College, 1981), 1967-80.

Ancestry.com. "Leonarz, Bertita". *Marion County, Indiana, Marriage Index, 1925-2012*. Retrieved 2015/08/26. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes a letter from Bertita Harding in Indianapolis, Indiana on September 16, 1935 regarding a talk she would present on October 24, 1935.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a records transfer from the Indiana State Library Director's office.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2015/08/26 by Edythe Huffman. EAD finding aid created 2015/08/26 by Edythe Huffman.

Related Materials

Related Archival Material

Materials relating to this collection may be found in the following collections in Indiana Division, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN:

Clipping file: Harding, Bertita

Controlled Access Headings

Subject(s)

- Authors and publishers
- Correspondence
- Public speaking
- Women authors